

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 04499 200443Z

15
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 DRC-01 /065 W
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 1604
AMEMBASSY RANGOON

S E C R E T BANGKOK 4499

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, TH, BM
SUBJECT: PDP/KAREN ATTACK ON BURMESE ARMY OUTPOSTS

FOLLOWING RECEIVED ACTION BANGKOK INFO COMUSMACHTAI CMDR KO KHA
AIR STATION CO DET III FROM CHIANG MAI MARCH 19.
REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE:

S E C R E T CHIANG MAI 136

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, TH, BM
SUBJECT: PDP/KAREN ATTACK ON BURMESE ARMY OUTPOSTS

1. BPP SOURCES TODAY GENERALLY CONFIRMED STORIES
FRONTPAGES BKK POST AND BKK NATION. ACCORDING TO BPP
SOURCES, COMBINED PDP/KNUF FORCES LAUNCHED ATTACKS ON
MAR 17 FROM WAN PALU (MU 5534) AND AN UNIDENTIFIED
LOCATION IN THAILAND AGAINST THREE BURMESE ARMY LOCATIONS
IN WESTERN KAREN STATE (LOCATION IN THAILAND IS PROBABLY
WANGHKA (MU 455530), WHERE ACCORDING TO EARLIER REPORT,
101ST KAREN SPECIAL ACTION FORCE WAS LOCATED). GROUPS
ATTACKED THINGANNYINAUNG AT (MU 3645), MEPALE (MU 3552)
AND MYAWADI (MU 4645). ACCORDING TO BPP SOURCES,
THINGANNYINAUNG HAS FALLEN TO THE ATTACKERS. THIS

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TOWN SITS ASTRIDE POTENTIAL BURMESE REINFORCEMENT ROUTE

AS DOES MEPALE TO THE NORTH. BPP SAYS MORTAR, SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT MACHINE GUN FIRE FROM MYAWADI ACTION IS AUDIBLE IN MAE SOT AND BPP DOES NOT KNOW HOW LONG BURMESE GARRISON CAN HOLD OUT.

2. BPP EXPECTS COMBATANTS FROM BOTH SIDES TO RETREAT INTO THAILAND AND HAS ORDERED COMBINED BPP/RTA FORCES AT MAE SOT TO DISARM THEM.

3. WANGHKA HAS LONG BEEN A MAJOR STAGING POINT FOR KAREN ACTIVITIES (SEE CHIANG MAI 416 OF NOV '73). WHILE PALU IS ON BURMESE SOIL, PDP FORCES PROBABLY SET OFF FROM PDP CAMP AT BAN HUAI FAI (MU 6070), JUST TO THE EAST OF THE MAE SOT RUNWAY.

4. COMMENT: IF INITIAL REPORTS ARE ACCURATE, THIS ACTION APPEARS TO BE FAIRLY SUBSTANTIAL AND WELL-COORDINATED. ALSO, ELEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN PDP AND KAREN SOMEWHAT UNUSUAL.
MONTGOMERY
UNQUOTE KINTNER

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NNN

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